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Group Art Unit: 3743
Docket No. 58632US004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A respirator hood to be worn on the head of a user to provide a supply of breathable air to a face region of the user, the hood having an air chamber arranged in an upper portion to extend over and above the head of a user, the air chamber having an inlet connectable to a source of breathable air and an outlet arranged to deliver breathable air to a face region of the user, wherein the air chamber defines a collapse-resistant air duct between the inlet and outlet wherein the air chamber comprises an outer wall of the hood and an inner wall secured to the outer wall around a perimeter edge of the hood to define the air duct therebetween, and wherein the inner wall is shaped to form a channel extending around ~~the~~ a front of ~~the~~ a dome-shaped portion with the outlet being arranged in ~~the~~ a side of the channel facing ~~the~~ a side wall of the hood.

2. (Currently Amended) The respirator hood of claim 1, wherein the air chamber provides support at ~~the~~ a perimeter of the hood for a visor that covers at least the face of the user.

3. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 2, wherein the visor is restricted to the face region of the user only.

4. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 2, wherein the visor extends around the head of the user to enclose fully of the head.

5. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 2, wherein the visor comprises a transparent or translucent portion of the hood through which the user can see.

6. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 2, wherein the visor forms at least part of a side wall of the hood.

7. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 6, wherein the visor is formed integrally with the side wall.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 1, wherein the outer wall and inner wall of the air chamber are made of transparent or translucent material.

12. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 1, wherein at least one of the outer wall and the inner wall is shape stable.

13. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 12, wherein the inner wall is shape stable.

14. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 1, as wherein the side wall is shape stable.

15. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 1, as wherein the side wall is non-shape stable.

16. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 1, wherein the shape stable wall is made of a plastics material selected from the group comprising polypropylene (PP), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyethylene terephthalate glycol (PET-G) and polycarbonate (PC).

17. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of 1, wherein the non shape stable walls are made of polyurethane (PU) or polyvinylchloride (PVC).

18. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 1, wherein the outer wall is a top wall of the hood.

19. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 18, wherein the top wall and inner wall of the air chamber are permanently secured together.

20. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 19, wherein the side wall is permanently secured to the top wall and inner wall.

21. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 18, wherein the top wall and inner wall of the air chamber are releasably secured together.

22. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 21, as wherein the side wall is permanently secured to one of the top wall and inner wall.

23. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 22, wherein the side wall is permanently secured to the top wall of the air chamber and the inner wall of the air chamber is releasably located and secured within the hood.

24. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 13, wherein the inlet and outlet are provided in the inner wall of the air chamber.

25. (Original) The respirator hood according to claim 24, wherein an air supply line is connectable to the inlet within the hood.

26. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 12, wherein the top wall and inner wall of the air chamber are secured together around the perimeter of the hood and are spaced apart inwardly of the perimeter.

27. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 1, wherein the air duct extends across the whole area of the hood above the head of the user and is not confined to the peripheral edge region of the hood.

28. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 1, wherein the top wall and inner wall of the chamber are provided with smooth internal surfaces shaped to direct the flow of air from the inlet to the outlet without any sharp or sudden changes in direction.

29. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 28, wherein the inlet opens into the air chamber to assist the air flow to spread out within the air chamber.

30. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 29, wherein the top wall and inner wall of the chamber are dome-shaped to provide the upper portion of the hood with a recessed area open to the underside over the head of the user.

31. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 30, wherein the inlet and outlet are provided on opposite sides of the dome-shaped portion of the inner wall.

32. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 30, wherein the inlet is provided at the rear and the outlet is provided at the front of the dome-shaped portion of the inner wall.

33. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 30, wherein the inner wall is shaped to form a channel extending around the front of the dome-shaped portion with the outlet being arranged in the side of the channel facing the side wall of the hood.

34. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 1, wherein the outlet comprises at least one elongate slot.

35. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 1, wherein the outlet comprises a plurality of holes.

36. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 35, wherein the holes are arranged in a symmetrical array comprising a central hole and at least one pair of holes on opposite sides of the central hole.

37. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 36, wherein the holes are all of the same size.

38. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 36, wherein the size of the holes decreases progressively on each side of the central hole.

39. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 1, wherein the outlet is formed in a portion of the air chamber that is inclined to direct the air flow away from the face region of the user.

40. (Currently Amended) The respirator hood of claim 39, wherein the inclined portion extends at an angle of 15 to 60 degrees relative to a ~~front~~ side wall of the hood.

41. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 40, wherein the inclined portion extends at approximately 45 degrees.

42. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 25, wherein the inlet is releasably connectable to the air supply line.

43. (Original) The respirator hood of claim 25, wherein the inlet is permanently connected to the air supply line.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Canceled)

46. (Canceled)

47. (Canceled)

48. (Previously Presented) A respirator hood to be worn on the head of a user to provide a supply of breathable air to a face region of the user, the hood having an air chamber arranged in an upper portion to extend over and above the head of a user, the air chamber having an inlet connectable to a source of breathable air and an outlet arranged to deliver breathable air to a face region of the user, wherein the air chamber defines a collapse-resistant air duct between the inlet and outlet, wherein the air chamber comprises an outer wall of the hood and an inner wall secured to the outer wall around a perimeter edge of the hood to define the air

duct therebetween, and wherein at least one of the outer wall and the inner wall are non-shape stable.

49. (Previously Presented) A respirator hood to be worn on the head of a user to provide a supply of breathable air to a face region of the user, the hood having an air chamber arranged in an upper portion to extend over and above the head of a user, the air chamber having an inlet connectable to a source of breathable air and an outlet arranged to deliver breathable air to a face region of the user, wherein the air chamber defines a collapse-resistant air duct between the inlet and outlet wherein the air chamber comprises an outer wall of the hood and an inner wall secured to the outer wall around a perimeter edge of the hood to define the air duct therebetween, and wherein the outlet is formed in a portion of the air chamber that is inclined to direct a flow of air from the air chamber away from the face region of the user.

50. (Currently Amended) The respirator hood of claim 49, wherein the outlet is inclined at an angle of 15 to 60 degrees relative to a ~~front~~ side wall of the hood.

51. (Previously Presented) The respirator hood of claim 50, wherein the outlet is inclined at approximately 45 degrees.

52. (Previously Presented) A respirator hood to be worn on the head of a user to provide a supply of breathable air to a face region of the user having eyes, the hood a side wall and having an air chamber arranged in an upper portion to extend over and above the head of a user, the air chamber having an inlet connectable to a source of breathable air and an outlet arranged to deliver breathable air to a face region of the user, wherein the air chamber defines a collapse-resistant air duct between the inlet and outlet, wherein the air chamber comprises an outer wall of the hood and an inner wall secured to the outer wall around a perimeter edge of the hood to define the air duct therebetween, and wherein a flow of air from the outlet contacts the side wall at or below a level of the eyes of the user.